

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198568

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 198568 ACTION MOGADISCIO, INFO ADDISABABA,
NAIROBI, JIDDA, SANA DTD 11 AUG 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198568

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US SO

SUBJECT: SOMALI AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU PAID HIS INITIAL CALL ON DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON ON AUGUST 10. FOLLOWING AN EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES THE DEPUTY SECRETARY NOTED THAT WHILE THE UNITED STATES IN PROVIDING A GRAIN SHIPMENT TO SOMALIA HAD DEMONSTRATED ITS DESIRE FOR BETTER RELATIONS, WE WOULD BE UNABLE TO CONSIDER FURTHER AID PROJECTS WITHOUT SOME SOMALI GESTURE INDICATING ITS OWN DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. WE ESPECIALLY NOTED THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTRY FOLLOWING THE VISITS OF SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND RUMSFELD AND THE INVITATION EXTENDED TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

2. AMBASSADOR ADDOU REPLIED HE APPRECIATED THE DEPUTY
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SECRETARY'S FRANKNESS. HE SAID RECENT SOMALI STATEMENTS

WERE A REFLECTION OF SOMALIA'S REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL STANCE AND WERE MADE NOT WITH AN INTENT TO HARM THE UNITED STATES. HE HOPED THE USG WOULD KEEP THE LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE IN VIEW RATHER THAN REACT TO IMMEDIATE INCIDENTS. HE CITED THE SOMALI DECISION TO PERMIT A PORT CALL AND THE INVITATION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS TO VISIT BERBERA AS EXAMPLES OF SOMALI GESTURES WHICH HAD BEEN

FRUSTRATED BY BADLY-TIMED AMERICAN REACTIONS. HE SAW THIS IN PART AS A PROBLEM OF COMMUNICATION AND HE SUGGESTED AGAIN THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE VISIT SOMALIA FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

3. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED IN DIALOGUE AND IN PRINCIPLE SUPPORTED A VISIT BY SCHAUFELLE TO MOGADISCIO.

4. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY THEN ASKED IF FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S STATEMENT ON THE SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE WAS TRUE. AMBASSADOR ADDOU REPLIED THAT THE STATEMENT WAS BADLY TIMED. HE DENIED THAT THE SOVIET UNION MAINTAINED A MILITARY BASE IN SOMALIA, SAYING THAT THERE WAS NOTHING THERE UNDER THE TOTAL CONTROL OF THE SOVIETS. EVEN THE COMMUNICATIONS STATION WAS JOINTLY MANAGED AND AFTER 5 YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE AGREEMENT (SIGNED LAST YEAR), THE STATION WOULD COME UNDER TOTAL SOMALI CONTROL.

5. IN LEAVING, ADDOU ASKED IF HE COULD MAKE OCCASIONAL CALLS ON THE DEPUTY SECRETARY. MR. ROBINSON SAID THAT THE AMBASSADOR WOULD BE ESPECIALLY WELCOME IF HE BROUGHT NEWS OF A SOMALI GESTURE DEMONSTRATING A DESIRE FOR BETTER RELATIONS.

6. FOLLOWING THE CALL AMBASSADOR ADDOU TELEPHONED TO REQUEST A MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE IN ORDER TO EXPLORE A WAY AROUND THE PRESENT IMPASSE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. ROBINSON UNQTE: KISSINGER

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